

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AF-10

ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 AGR-20 HEW-08 ABF-01

L-03 H-02 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 SR-02 ORM-03 RSR-01 /206 W

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R 252045 Z JUN 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8561

UNCLAS USUN 2363

PASS AID

E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG, UN, SWEL

SUBJ: UNROB FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

REF: STATE 1 22439

SUMMARY. AFTER AMBASSADOR LACOSTE PROVIDED THE DONOR COMMITTEE WITH A FAIRLY ENCOURAGING SITUATION REPORT ON BANGLADESH, SIR ROBERT PROCEEDED TO EXPLAIN THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF UNROB AND TO LAUNCH AN APPEAL FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. THE US PROCEEDED PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL TO ANNOUNCE FURTHER PLEDGE OF \$1 MILLION.

1. AMBASSADOR LACOSTE ( UNROB DACCA) SAID THAT THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY BOTTLENECK IN THE UNLOADING AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOODSTUFFS. HE SAID THAT IN GENERAL THE SITUATION IS NOW SATISFACTORY AND THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR UNDUE ANXIETY EVEN IF CONTINUED VIGILANCE IS IN ORDER. HE SAID THAT THE NEXT CROP APPEARED TO BE PROMISING AND THAT THE ONLY PROBLEM FACING UNROB IS THAT OF HANDLING THE GRAIN ARRIVALS SCHEDULED FOR EARLY FALL. HE  
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ANNOUNCED THAT UNROB WILL INITIATE A PHASE- DOWN OF ITS OPERATION ON HIS RETURN TO DACCA AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR.

2. SIR ROBERT SAID THAT APPROXIMATELY 2.3 MILLION TONS OF FOOD WILL BE HANDLED IN 1973. 1.5 MILLION TONS OF FOOD HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED, AND THE ONLY BULGE IN SCHEDULED ARRIVALS IS LIKELY FOR SEPTEMBER. WHILE RICE PRICES HAVE CONTINUED THEIR DOWNWARD TREND OF RECENT WEEKS HE HAD WRITTEN A LETTER TO THE MINISTER OF FOOD TO CAUTION HIM AGAINST LETTING THE RATION EVER EXCEED THE STOCKS THAT ARE ALREADY IN SIGHT. IN ADDITION SIR ROBERT TOUCHED ON THE HEALTH SITUATION NOTING PARTICULARLY THAT THE INCIDENCE OF SMALL POX IS CONTINUING AT ABOUT 2,000 CASES A MONTH.

3. BEFORE LAUNCHING THE APPEAL FOR \$2.7 MILLION, SIR ROBERT EXPLAINED THE SCOPE OF UNROB OPERATIONS PLANNED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR. HE SAID THAT THE APPEAL WAS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR SIX LIGHTERING VESSELS FROM AUGUST 1 UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR. THESE VESSELS ARE PARTICULARLY NECESSARY TO UNLOAD THE SEPTEMBER ARRIVALS. HE SAID THAT UNROB IS PROGRESSING WITH THE HANDOVER OPERATION TO THE BDG WHICH SHOULD BE IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT IN A FEW WEEKS. HE SAID THAT THE COST OF THE LIGHTERING IS \$350,000 A MONTH AND THAT THIS SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED AS LONG AS FINANCIAL RESOURCES PERMIT.

4. IN RESPONSE TO HIS APPEAL THE U. S. REP ( AMB ZAGORIN) ANNOUNCED FURTHER CONTRIBUTION \$1 MILLION. HE ALSO CITED IMPORTANCE OF SUCCESSFUL UNROB OPERATION FOR UN SYSTEM AND ENDORSED TRANSFER OF OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. SWEDEN ANNOUNCED DONATION OF 500,000 KRONER ( APPROXIMATELY \$130,000) AND NEW ZEALAND POINTED OUT THAT ITS PREVIOUS CONTRIBUTION OF APPROXIMATELY \$ 50,000 WOULD BECOME \$63, 000 BECAUSE OF EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATION. NETHERLANDS REP PRIVATELY INFORMED AMBASSADOR ZAGORIN OF FURTHER 2 MILLION GUILDERS ( APPROXIMATELY \$740,000 ) CONTRIBUTION.

5. AT CLOSE OF MEETING JACKSON ANNOUNCED THAT WITH CONTRI-  
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BUTIONS ALREADY IN HAND LIGHTERING WOULD DEFINITELY CONTINUE THROUGH OCTOBER. FINANCIAL STATEMENT PROVIDED BY UNROB BEING POUCHED, E. PLOCH, AID/ ASIA/ SA.  
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